### SELECTIONS

FROM THE

## VERNACULAR NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE

NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES, OUDH, CENTRAL PROVINCES, CENTRAL INDIA, AND RÁJPÚTÁNÁ, Received up to 21st October, 1888.

#### POLITICAL.

The Aligarh Institute Gazette, of the 13th October, says that the promoters of the National Anti-National Congress Meeting, Sháhjahánpur. Congress sent their Agent, Mr. Bhimji, to Sháhjahánpur in the hope that he would easily enlist the sympathies of the simple-hearted Afghans of that place on behalf of the movement, but that they were disappointed. An Anti-Congress Meeting was held by the Muhammadan inhabitants of Sháhjahánpur the same day that a Congress Meeting was convened by Mr. Bhimji. Another large meeting was held by them on the 30th August in the Zila School. The Gazette gives the names of some of the men who attended the meeting of the 30th August, and refers to the Resolutions passed by the meeting, which were to the effect that the Musalmans of Shahjahanpur have no sympathy with the Congress, and that if any man attends the Allahabad Congress as a delegate, he will represent only himself and not them.

The same paper, of the 16th October, states that about

Musalmans of Saharanpur and the National Congress.

5,000 Musalmans assembled at the

Jama-i-Masjid in Saharanpur on Friday, the 5th October, to offer their

prayers. Maulvi Abdul Ghani and Háfiz Fakharu-l-din

Circulation, 494 copies.

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availed themselves of the occasion to explain to the assembly the aims and objects of the National Congress, and to point out how injurious to the country, particularly the Muhammadan community, the movement is. The whole gathering then unanimously passed a vote in condemnation of the Congress.

Circulation, 620 copies.

The Nasim-i-Agra, of the 15th October, publishes an National Congress Meet- account of the proceedings of the ing at Agra. National Congress Meeting held at Agra on the 13th idem. The notice about the meeting was issued by Raja Lachman Singh. There was a large attendance on the occasion, all classes of the Agra community being represented. Mr. Constantine presided, and the Hon'ble Pandit Ajodhya Nath delivered a very eloquent and impressive speech, explaining the aims and objects of the Congress and refuting the objections of the opponents. Among the other speakers were Munshi Girdhar Lal, Babu Jamna Dás Biswas, Lala Nihal Chand, and Munshi Shankar Dial. The meeting came to a conclusion with three cheers for Her Majesty, three for the Congress, and three for the President.

Circulation, 100 copies. The Bhárat Bandhu (Aligarh), of the 5th October, gives National Congress Meet. a brief account of the National Coning at Aligarh. gress Meeting held at the Institute Hall, Aligarh, on the 4th idem. The hall and the verandah were entirely full, the attendance being 500 or 600 men. The Hon'ble Pandit Ajodhya Náth made a long speech on the aims and objects of the Congress which extended over two and a half hours. He endeavoured to show that the Congress was a perfectly loyal movement, that its aims and objects were beneficial to all classes of the Indian population, and that the opponents were influenced by prejudice and selfish motives in their opposition to it.

Circulation, 325 copies. A correspondent of the Titi-i-Hind (Meerut), of the Adverse comments on the 16th October, condemns the National National Congress.

Congress as calculated to bring about a terrible rebellion, if it is not nipped in the bud,

and expresses surprise at the silence of Government. The writer considers the sympathy of Mr. Hume and other European promoters of the National Congress with natives to be moonshine, and asks why they do not agitate for the punishment of those Europeans who kill natives, but are acquitted by Judges, if they are real friends of the children of the soil. No native prince would tolerate such a seditious movement among his subjects for a single moment. The writer advises natives, particularly Musalmans, to keep aloof from the Congress.

Comments on the opposition of Musalmans to the National Congress.

not join the Congress, if the Talukdars of Oudh have express ed their opposition to the movement, and if the Mahárája of Benares has condemned it at the instigation of a traitor, this does not matter much. Nothing could be more preposterous than to call the Congress a seditious movement movement been a seditious one, Government would have suppressed it at once. When Hindus, Bengalis, Sikhs, Parsis, native Christians, and Europeans are in its favour, Government cannot refrain from taking its requests into consideration owing to the opposition of some Musalmans. The undue prominence given to the holding aloof of the Muhammadan community from the National Congress has led ignorant Musalmans to form a very exaggerated idea of themselves. Some Muhammadan newspapers which are opposed to the Congress comment upon it in such a way as if Musalmans were the greatest supporters and friends of Government and they were the only men who could and would render aid to Government in a war with the Russians, and Government will pay no attention to the requests of the Congress owing to their opposition to it! In short, they are led to consider themselves the sole arbiters of the fate of Government and the people. The spread of such false notions among ignerant persons is very injurious both to Government and the counoff seat Problem in India, "Lately publiched in the try.

Circulation, 620 copies.

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The Prayag Mittra, a new weekly newspaper of Allahabad. which is printed partly in Hindi and Attack made on Anglopartly in English, publishes an article Indians by the Prayág Mittra. headed "India and England" in English in its issue of the 8th October, received on the 18th idem. In the article the Mittra praises Her Majesty for her sympathy with the people, but makes a violent attack on Anglo-Indians, whom it calls "stone-hearted Anglo-Indians." The last two sentences of the article are as follows:—"O clouds, drop this sad story before our mother Queen that her children in India are cruelly tortured and forbidden, on pain of death, to raise even a cry, to drop even a tear. O glorious orb, why not shed thy genial rays in the paths of the mother Queen, that Her Majesty may see that her children are beheaded in cold blood in dark, and are not allowed to draw even a last sigh."

The same paper publishes a communicated article in English, in which the writer refers to the former greatness of Hindús, ascribes their downfall to the growth of selfishness and disunion among them, represents the Mágh Mela and other such fairs in the light of National Congresses, and then observes—" Why, then, do you rise against the National Congress? Try heart and soul for the National Congress, and do not mind the barking of an old dog. Try to be one and united, and you will then enjoy the fruit which you have not tasted for many many years."

Circulation, 156 copies. The Agra Punch, of the 12th October, contains a cartoon Promoters and opponents in which a donkey, called the National of the National Congress. Congress, and a horse, called the Anti-National Congress, are represented as fighting with each other. A number of Bengális stand behind the donkey and a number of Musalmáns behind the horse.

Circulation, 240 copies. The Hindustán (Kálákankar), of the 16th, 17th, and 18th

Sir William Hunter's article published in the Conimportant passages of Sir William temporary Review.

Hunter's article, entitled "The Present Problem in India," lately published in the Contemporary

Review, and asks all English-knowing natives to study the article.

The Kanauj Punch, of the 15th October, publishes a Alleged ill-treatment of picture in which a strong and stout native princes by Residents. European is represented as conversing with a Nawab and a Rája who are mere skeletons. The letter-press is as follows:—

Circulation, 240 copies.

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European .- "Why are you so lean?"

Nawab and Raja.—"We have become so lean owing to the mischievous proceedings of the Residents."

#### GENERAL ADMINISTRATION.

The Hindustán (Kálákankar); of the 18th and 19th Indian Jail Administra- October, quotes some statistics from tion Report for 1887. the Indian Jail Administration Report for 1887 about the different classes of the Jail population, and refers to the conclusions which can be drawn from those figures. With reference to the division of prisoners into four classes according to age, viz., class I, composed of prisoners below 16 years; class II, of those between 15 and 40 years; class III, of those between 40 and 60 years, and class IV, of those above 60 years, the Hindustán is of opinion that the division is not a satisfactory one and does not clearly show at what age men are most prone to commit crime. The Hindustán thinks that the following would be a better division, namely, class I, including convicts up to 16 years of age; class II, those between 16 and 25 years; class III, those between 25 and 35 years; class IV, those between 35 and 45 years; class V, those between 45 and 60 years, and class VI, those above 60 years. The Hindustan highly approves of the proposed establishment of a reformatory for juvenile criminals in every province.

Circulation, 240 copies.

Proposed abolition of the Munsifi for the suburbs of the city of Moradadad.

Proposed abolition of the Munsifi at Moradadad, one for the city and the other for the Havali or the suburbs. It is believed that it

Circulation, 75 copies.

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has been proposed to have only one Munsif for the city and

the suburbs in future. There is already great delay in the decision of suits in the two Munsifis. If one of them si abolished, there will be still greater delay. Hence the Najm hopes that the High Court and the Local Government will not reduce the number of Munsifs at Moradabad, and urges that a new Munsif should be appointed for Chandpur and Dhampur in the Bijnor district.

Circulation, 400 copies.

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The Prayag Samachar (Allahabad), of the 8th October, received on the 21st idem, complains that some Magistrates at Allahabad do not perform their duties properly.

Cases are not heard on the dates previously fixed for the purpose, and consequently the parties concerned and witnesses have to attend Court every day for one or two weeks, to their great inconvenience and loss, If a plaintiff happens to be absent on the day on which the Court is pleased to take up his case, the prosecution is at once dismissed. The postponement of cases in this way also causes great inconvenience to pleaders and mukhtars. Orders are passed fifteen or twenty days after a trial is finished. If an accused person, who is convicted and sentenced to imprisonment, desires to execute a mukhtarnama at once, in order that an appeal may be instituted on his behalf, he is not allowed to do so. The Magistrates hold Court from 12 A.M. to 7 P.M., which puts the people to much inconvenience, If they do not mend their ways, the Samáchár will publish their names in future. has it does not beath. It was

Circulation, 250 copies. The Azdd (Lucknow), of the 19th October, regrets to notice that Sir Auckland Colvin made some comments in condemnation of the conduct of the police, but that His Honor has not yet introduced any reforms. There are thousands of Magistrates who would bear witness to the high-handed and illegal proceedings of the police. There is no doubt that the police and tahaili officials cannot perform their duties on some occasions without using some force, but they frequently abuse their powers. A reference to the records of criminal cases will show how often they endeavour to get innocent

men punished, and they are very corrupt. In the interior of districts ordinary police constables behave themselves as if they possess more power than even the Governor-General. As Sir Auckland Colvin has publicly censured the proceedings of the police, he had better do something to reform the force.

Circulation, 620 copies.

A correspondent of the Nasim-i-Agra, of the 15th October, complains that the duty of the The same. police is to guard the lives and property of the people, but that they oppress the people in a variety of ways. They extort confessions of guilt from innocent men by torturing them, get them convicted and punished, receive from thieves and robbers a portion of the stolen property, and so forth. The writer then refers, on the authority of some Anglo-Indian newspaper, to the case of one Isharia, who was sentenced to transportation for life by the Sessions Judge of Cawnpore on the charge of killing a child, but who was afterwards acquitted by the Allahabad High Court on appeal. In giving an account of the case, the writer charges a head-constable with making witnesses give false evidence against the accused by torture. In conclusion, the writer expresses surprise that although the high-handedness and tyranny of the police are frequently brought to light, Government should do nothing to reform the force. A Commission had better be appointed to enquire into the present unsatisfactory condition of the police.

The Azdd, Lucknow, of the 19th October, regrets to say village schools.

been successful, the chief cause of their failure being that the teachers under whom the schools have been placed are, as a rule, very incompetent men and enjoy no popularity with the village population. There is another thing to be observed. The pay of a village school teacher does not exceed Rs. 6 or 7, and he is expected to teach hundreds of boys. Cultivators are in great need of elementary instruction in order that they may be able to save themselves from being cheated by money-lenders, landlords, patwers, police, pleaders, and the ministerial officials of courts of

Circulation, 250 copies. justice, with whom they have frequent dealings. The Azdá urges that tahsíldárs and other Government officials should always make a point of inducing cultivators to send their sons to school during their tours in the interior of the country, and that some special scholarships should be established for the sons of cultivators.

Circulation, 400 copies.

British Live

The Prayág Samáchár (Allahabad), of the 8th October, referring to the Muharram riots at Bhárat Singh at the Najíb- Najíbabad, highly praises Kunwar Bhárat Singh for the courage and bravery exhibited by him in encountering and dispersing a crowd of two thousand fanatic and excited Musalmáns, and says that, although he has received no military training, he was able to show such bravery and presence of mind at the crisis, as he belongs to the brave and warlike Kshatri race.

Circulation, 200 copies. The Dabdaba-i-Kuisari (Bareilly), of the 13th October, Case of Mr. Fanthome, referring to the case of Mr. Fanthome, Deputy Collector, Bareilly. Deputy Collector, Bareilly, who has been charged with receiving bribes, says that it is rumoured that he has admitted in his statement that one Fakhru'l-din called on him at his house twice or thrice with money, but that the man afterwards apologized to him. The Magistrate has forwarded the result of his inquiry into the case to the Local Government for orders. If the rumour about Mr. Fanthome's admission is true, the question is why he did not commit Fakhru-l-din to the Magistrate for trial on the charge of offering him a bribe.

Circulation, 425 copies.

The Oudh Punch (Lucknow), of the 11th October, conScarcity of grain in the tains a picture in which the Deccan is
represented as a cow attacked by a
large snake called Famine.

Circulation, 400 copies.

The Prayag Samachar (Allahabad), of the 8th October,

adverting to the late fire at the Allahabad city, says that about a lakh of
rupees worth of property belonging to shopkeepers was burnt,
and that the municipal market has seriously been injured.
The City Inspector of Police prevented the fire from spreading.

otherwise the entire row of shops would have been burnt. The fire could not be put out speedily, as there was no fire-engine at hand. The explosion of kerosine oil did much mischief. It remains to be seen what aid Government will render to the shopkeepers who have been ruined by the fire.

# TOTAL PROPERTY OF NATIVE STATES.

The Najmu-l-Hind (Moradabad), of the 15th October,

Comments on Muharram

Ali Chishti's attack on why Muharram Ali Chishti, the

Kashmir.

editor of the Rafig-i-Hind of Lahore,

Circulation, 75 copies.

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persists in urging the annexation of Kashmir to British territory. Would he be made Chief Commissioner of the province if it were annexed? Does he not know that if Kashmir were annexed, thousands of Hindis and Musalmans would suddenly be thrown out of employ, and that the Government of India would lose in the State a strong shield against a Russian invasion? The Najm does not know how Musalmans are greatly oppressed in Kashmir, as stated by the Rajiq-i-Hind. Muharram Ali quotes some extracts from Raja Shiva Prasad's History of India in support of his comments, but the Raja's statements are as groundless as his own. He had better express his secret object in attacking the State. In that case the Najm will assist him in securing that object. In its future issues it will refute the charges which he has brought against the Kashmir State.

The Naiyar-i-Asam (Moradabad), of the 15th October, says that the affairs of Rampur were in a satisfactory state when the administration was entirely in the hands of General Azimu-l-din Khan, the Prime Minister. He worked eighteen hours every day, and the people were quite satisfied with his administration. It is difficult to understand why the Local Government considered it necessary to interfere and appoint a Council. It would have been better if the two new members of the Council had been appointed the Prime Minister's secretaries. The selection of Kunwar Lutt Alt Khan by the Local Government was not a good one. It is true

Circulation, 175 copies.

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in alteração La compação that he belongs to a respectable family, but he does not possess the intellectual qualifications necessary for the performance of the duties of a post of trust and responsibility. He was appointed a Deputy Collector by the Local Government, but his appointment had soon afterwards to be cancelled. When he made over charge of office of Deputy Collector, many cases which had not been disposed of were found in the office bundles. Again, he is deeply involved in debt, and civil court decrees are often executed against him. He repeatedly applied to the Local Government to place his estate under the management of the Court of How can a man who is unable to manage his own estate properly be expected to manage the affairs of a large State? Kunwar Lutf Ali Khan has been placed at the head of the Judicial Department in Rampur, although he does not at all know the law. An able and experienced Judicial official should have been appointed to the post. The Local Government was not well advised in interfering with the internal affairs of the State in accordance with the wishes of some discontented relatives of the Nawab. Had the Nawab and his discontented relatives been let alone, they would have come to terms with each other ere long. The intervention of the Local Government has only made matters worse. When Sahabzada Kázim Ali Khán made a complaint to the Local Government against the late Nawab, it refused to interfere, and the result was that the two were soon reconciled to each other. If even now the Local Government refrains from interfering, the Nawab and his relatives will probably amicably settle their disputes in course of time.

Circulation, 100 copies. The Nizamu-l-Mulk (Moradabad), of the 18th October, says that Kunwar Lutf Ali Khan is still sojourning at Moradabad, and that he will probably stay there till the approaching visit of the Lieutenant-Governor. The Nizam finds fault with him for having frequent interviews with the discontented relatives of the Nawab, and condemns the relatives of the Nawab for their opposition to His Highness. The Nizam advises

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the Local Government to tell them that it will not interfere on their behalf. In that case they will be obliged to own allegiance to the Nawab and return to Rampur.

A correspondent of the Túti-i-Hind (Meerut), of the 16th October, complains that mal-The same.

Circulation 325 copies.

administration in Rámpur has lately been carried to an extreme, but that Government officers are still quite reticent and even incite the rival parties to fight with each other. The inexperienced and narrowminded State officials are puffed up with pride and say that they have gained absolute power by making a free use of the State treasury, and that no one can prevent them from exercising that power in any way they like. contrary, the complainants say that they have been promised justice by high-minded authorities who do not care a fig even for fourteen lakhs of rupees. On the two previous occasions the object of the authorities was to bring about a conciliations. The complainants offered allegiance, but they were dishonoured in return. Now the authorities are sure to dispense even-handed justice. During the Prime Minister's illness Mir Musa Raza, the Superintendent of Police, bad access to the Nawab, who was pleased to promise posts to his grandsons. Accordingly he sent for his grandsons to Rampur and introduced them to His Highness. In the meantime the Prime minister returned to Rampur on his recovery from illness and was highly annoyed at the influence gained by Mir Musa Raza over the Nawab. At the end of September Mir Musa Raza suddenly received orders to the effect that he was granted three months' leave without pay owing to his old age. One Taháwar Ali has been appointed in his place. It is rumoured that Taháwar Ali was formerly a Tahsildar in British India, and was sentenced to two months' imprisonment on the charge of receiving bribes. The write then refers to the alleged ill-treatment of one Mathura Prasad, a legal practitioner in Rampur. On the 20th September the Naib Kotwal went to that part of the city where Mathura Prasad lives, with a view to demolish some house, and ordered his chaprasis to bring Mathura Prasad and a number

of other men to him. Mathura Prasad made some delay in coming out of his house. On this the chaprasis entered the house, seized him and his friend who was seated near him, and carried them to the police-station, severely beating them all the way. They were charged with impertinence and sent to the Magistrate, who sentenced them to a dozen strokes of the care. Mathura Prasad was also sentenced to undergo imprisonment for one year and to furnish security for Rs. 500, and, in case of default, to undergo imprisonment for one year more. With reference to Mathura Prasad's treatment with such severity, some persons are of opinion that the Naib Kotwal has brought him into difficulty in order to establish his iufluence over the people, who, he fancies, look down upon him (the Naib Kotwál) with contempt, as he is related to a Bhand or buffoon, while others think that Mathura Prasad was suspected by the Nawab and the Prime Minister of supplying information to their adversaries. Be that as it may, it is a matter of surprise that Government officers should tolerate such high-handedness in a native State. Indeed, they themselves are in a way responsible for the unsatisfactory state of affairs in Rampur. When any person makes a complaint to them, they tell him that they will do him justice, but do nothing. They had better place the affairs of the State on a satisfactory footing, or issue a proclamation to the effect that the State possesses the same powers as Changez Khan did, and that the British Government exercises no control over it.

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Sharat Bandhu Bulbul-i-Hind	Moradabad	Urda	: :	Kishun Sarúp	" och " 16th	" 19th	225
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Dabdaba-i-Sikandari,	Bámpar			Muhammad Hussin,		18th	48
Kindarika Toipur Gasette		Hindi Urdu Bi-	Daily Bi-weekly	Gur Datt Sukla Mahábir Praséd	16th to 20	th, " 17th to 21st	106 106
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LIST OF NEWSPAPERS EXAMINED.

List of newspapers examined—(concluded).

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222	Notes dyna Notes della	Agra Jampur Moradabad			Jamné Dás Biswás Muhammad Ishág Fahímu-l-dín	***	15th		17th 16th 20th	111	620	

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Goot. Reporter on the Vernacular Press of Upper India.

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## SELECTIONS

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# VERNACULAR NEWSPAPERS

Received up to 28th October, 1888.

# CONTENTS.

# POLITICAL.

Rija Shiva Prasid ar	nd the United Indi	an Patriotic	Association	m bars	708
Comments on the An	ti-National Congre	ses meering m	•••		708
	domnotic	n of the Nati	onsi Congre	stictal	
Proprietor of the Ba Congress	árat Jiwan newsp	eper of Bener			704
National Congress					704
Delegates from Hosh	nangabad for the A	Hahabad Con	gress		705
Government and the	National Congres				
	NATIVE	STATES.			
Rewah	•••		•••	 Ráme	705
Change of front by pur State	•••	in newstation	rowards	···	705
Appointment of Bay	pu Sahab Jalay na	the Prime M	inister of C.	,	

## GENERAL ADMINISTRATION.

						PA63.
Providing of advances	for cult	ivators	•••	464		706
Orawford case	•••	•••	•••	•••	•	707
Heavy cost of litigation by railway officials		lleged ill-t	reatment of	native pas	engers	708
Government and the	educatio	n of the pe	ople	•••		708
Levy of the house-tax		. r Joen	•••	in	11	709
Discontinuance of per-	sion in	some depa	rtments of	public adm	inistra-	709
Thefts committed by	police co	onstables a	t Ajmere			710
The City Inspector of	Police	at Sahárar	pur charge	i with rece	iving a	
bribe	•••	•••		•••	•••	710
Illegal proceedings of	the pol	ice at Mut	higanj, Allal	habad		711
Muharram at Agra		•••	•••	•••	•••	711
Resolutions of the Le	cal Gove	ernment ab	out religiou	riote -	***	712
Dasahra and Muharra	m at Gl	názipur		•••		712
Najíbabad riots	•••	•••		•••	•••	712
Religious quarrels bet	ween H	indús and	Musalmáns			718
		POST-01	PHICE.	\ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \		
Appointment of two	lady Ass	istants in t	he post-offic	e at Naini T	<b>al</b>	718
		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·				in the
	OCAL	AND MIS	CELLANE	ous.		
Local complaints, Ga	rhwál	•••				718
Discontinuance by the Cow-protection	he Mah		Benares of	his subscrip	tion to	714
Institution of a crim Rae Bhog Chand,						
libel	•••	•••	•••	•••	•••	714
Quarrel between the Meerut	Tátl-i-1	Zind and t	he <i>Zar(Au-l-</i>	Hind newsp	apers of	714

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